

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

GRANDSTAFF 

ROKOSCH

THOMPSON 

CHILCOTT 

DRISCOLL 

PLETTENBERG (Clerk & Recorder)

Date.....February 1, 2008

Members Present.....Commissioner Carlotta Grandstaff,  
Commissioner Jim Rokosch, Commissioner Greg Chilcott, Commissioner Alan  
Thompson and Commissioner Kathleen Driscoll

Minutes: Beth Perkins

► The Board met for discussion and decision on the 9-1-1 Union Contract. Commissioner Grandstaff questioned the cost of requested items and issues such as a pay increase for lead dispatcher, increase in pay for EMD, increase in pay for first year incentives, and an increase to allow a trainer and two additional holidays. The total of these requests are approximately \$25,000. Commissioner Thompson asked if the figure included COLA and retroactive pay. Commissioner Grandstaff replied she is not sure. Commissioner Thompson stated the big items appear to be the increase for the trainer and lead dispatcher. Commissioner Rokosch asked if the dispatchers had voted for these increases. Commissioner Grandstaff replied she does not know. Commissioner Thompson asked if this negotiation would be for a two year contract. Commissioner Grandstaff replied yes, it is a two year contract. Board discussion followed regarding the negotiations for the length of the contract.

**Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the 9-1-1 Union Contract. Commissioner Rokosch seconded the motion, all voted 'aye'.**

Commissioner Chilcott joined the meeting at this time.

► The Board met to review the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the LiDAR mapping consultants. Present were Floodplain Administrator Laura Hendrix and Planning Director Karen Hughes.

Laura gave a brief overview of the RFQ for the LiDAR mapping consultants. Commissioner Thompson asked if this was the original LiDAR plan. Laura replied yes.

Commissioner Thompson asked why this did not move forward until now. Laura replied there are only two times a year the flight for mapping can be taken, fall and spring. She had contacted companies to do the flight in the fall but they were booked through the winter.

**Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to approve and proceed with advertising a RFQ for LiDAR mapping consultants in order to obtain topographic data in the county. Commissioner Driscoll seconded the motion, all voted 'aye'.**

► The Board met with Sonny LaSalle for a decision on having the County be a co-sponsor of the Bio Fuel Educational Symposium.

Sonny stated the Bio Fuel Educational Symposium is set for March 1<sup>st</sup> at the Fairgrounds First Interstate Event Center. Big Sky Coalition is also a co-sponsor. He explained the use of ethanol, methanol and bio diesel for bio-fuels. Commissioner Driscoll asked what the cost would be for the county to be a co-sponsor. Sonny replied they are looking at the use of the Event Center and lunch. Board discussion followed regarding the policy of the Event Center.

Commissioner Thompson stated this is not the first time the county has looked at bio fuel and believes it to be a viable project. He stated if the U.S. got rid of all petroleum base products and used ethanol to fuel vehicles, it would take every acre available to produce corn and still not meet the needs. Commissioner Thompson felt the Commissioners should be involved with the bio mass accumulated in the forest and find a proactive use for it. There have been positives such as the "fuels for schools" project. When the Governor was here, he spoke of the use of bio fuels and electric generators.

Commissioner Driscoll stated she has spoken to Mr. LaSalle on this matter; however she would like to have more information. She agreed the Commissioners need to become educated on the viability of this issue.

Commissioner Rokosch agreed with Commissioner Driscoll. His concern is the cost to the county to be a co-sponsor of this symposium. He stated he is uncomfortable bending the rules in order to utilize the Event Center, and would rather contribute funding in order to use another building.

Commissioner Chilcott stated there are other entities that could be partners in this event such as RC&D. Board discussion followed regarding other alternatives for co-sponsors.

Sonny stated summer burning is a major contributor of particulate matter to the air quality. Commissioner Driscoll asked if there were a plant for bio mass materials, how the materials would be transported to the plant. Sonny replied he does not know.

Sonny also discussed the definition of wild land interface. He is talking about renewable growth that will be on a timeframe to meet the energy needs and reduce pollution.

Commissioner Grandstaff stated it is the Board's consensus to be a co-sponsor however, the cost is an issue. Commissioner Rokosch stated he does not want to set the precedent of the county to be co-sponsor for the reduced rate on the use of the Event Center. Commissioner Chilcott stated he would recommend fielding additional sponsors to share the expense such as RC&D. Commissioner Thompson stated one entity that has not been brought up is RCEDA.

**Commissioner Rokosch made a motion to be co-sponsor of the Bio-fuel Educational Symposium with the details to be negotiated at a later time and a maximum amount to be spent by the Commissioners of \$550. Commissioner Chilcott seconded the motion, all voted 'aye'.**

Commissioner Driscoll left the meeting at this time.

Commissioner Chilcott recommended Sonny contact RC&D, RCEDA and the Fair Commission for co-sponsorship.

► The Board met for an Environmental Health update with Director Lea Jordan.

Lea stated they have received grant monies in the amount of \$49,900 from DNRC for a ground water vulnerability analysis. All of this funding goes to Environmental Health. In the DEQ 319 program grant \$120,000 will be utilized for the riparian education campaign mostly for facilitation for advertising. None of this funding will go directly to Environmental Health, but rather Flathead County will be administering this statewide grant. In the DEQ 319 Clean Water Act \$90,000 will be utilized for a hazardous waste collection event, well sampling and education for the care of septic systems. All of this funding goes to Environmental Health.

Lea stated these are all good community based activities. She would like to have the hazardous waste collection this spring and it is fully funded. \$15,000 is available for the hazardous waste collection which can be done immediately upon grant approval.

Lea gave an update of properties within the county that are failing groundwater monitoring. Lea stated there are some properties currently for sale that will not pass septic permit approval. She stated the problem is the buyers are not being told prior to purchase. Board discussion followed regarding suggestions of how to handle the problem however, no solution was found.

The Board congratulated Lea for her hard work in obtaining grant funds.

► The Board met to award the RFP for the financing of the Energy Performance Contract which was continued from Wednesday January 30<sup>th</sup>. Present was Internal Auditor Klarryse Murphy.

Klarryse stated the prime rate does not affect the tax-exempt U.S. bond rate. Civil Counsel Alex Beal stated the rates bid by All-American and Citicorp are excellent rates. Klarryse recommended the Board select All-American for the financing of the Energy Performance Contract with the concurrence of Civil Counsel.

**Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to enter into a lease purchase agreement with All-American for the financing of the Energy Performance Contract. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion, all voted 'aye'.**